
From: Gerry Matthews
Sent: Sunday, March 29, 2015 6:26 PM
To: AppTestimony
Cc: Sen. Linares, Art; Rep. Miller, Philip; mschlag@haddam.org
Subject: Testimony in favor of SB816

Education Cost Sharing should mean what it says. Otherwise, the name should be changed to Politically Motivated Bribery. If our system of government has a moral content, the inequities in ECS will someday come back to haunt the legislators who allow and abet its abuse.

This exploitation has hurt Haddam badly. As one of the most beautiful, historic towns along the Connecticut River, we are suffering from a school budget that is draining our resources. With more historic homes than Williamsburg, "FOR SALE" signs are seen everywhere. Despite the school system, people just can't afford to live here and industry is justifiably afraid to settle because of the likely tax burden.

Give us a break. And the other communities being abused by this unfair system. If you believe in clean government, it's time to fight for clean financing. And if you really want good educational resources for our kids, don't mandate standards unless you intend and know we/you can afford them without undercutting our communities. I'm afraid you've brought Haddam to our knees. We are now in the position of having to fight for the life of our town.

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